

Clinical Psychology Doctoral Internship Program

The Harris County Juvenile Probation Department (HCJPD) will accept three full-time interns for a twelve-month internship, which begins approximately August 1st and ends July 31st. HCJPD is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC), and is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). Questions specifically related to the program's accreditation status should be directed to the Commissioner on Accreditation:

[Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation](#)

American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 336-5979
Email: apaaccred@apa.org

The potential applicant must currently be enrolled in a doctoral program in psychology (clinical, counseling, forensic, school, or educational psychology). During the course of the year, interns will be required to complete a minimum of 2000 clock hours to be used towards licensure. Interns are expected to work at least 40 hours per week, and at least 25 percent of the time will be devoted to direct services. The internship is primarily assessment oriented; however, interns also conduct individual, family, and group counseling, crisis intervention, and consultation services. Upon completion of the internship year, interns will be granted a certificate of completion signifying that all requirements have been met.

Our Mission and Training Philosophy

The mission of the internship program is to assist interns in developing proficiency in the provision of psychological services to juveniles in the justice system in a manner consistent with APA Ethical Standards. HCJPD adheres to a Practitioner-Scholar training model, with the focus of training the intern from a developmental perspective. One of the most important aspects of the internship year with HCJPD is to continue to sharpen the clinical skills of the interns and to provide the interns with the opportunity to work with a variety of clients and presenting concerns. The interns are expected to utilize evidenced-based practices in their assessments and interventions and to use scientific research to inform their professional practice. They are exposed to these practices through several didactic seminars, and they are clinically guided in implementing these practices through group and individual supervision. In addition, they are given additional opportunities to scientifically review and critique the current literature that is relevant to this population. There are also limited opportunities to become involved in ongoing research within the department, if an intern expresses an interest in this. Our ultimate goal is to assist the intern in learning how to act competently, respectfully, ethically, and empathically in the delivery of mental health services while being ever cognizant of the cultural and individual diversity of the clients being served. This necessarily includes an understanding of issues related to multiculturalism, underserved populations, and juvenile delinquency, as well as an awareness of professional issues and ethical standards.

All training experiences within HCJPD are approached by utilizing a developmental model. The intern progresses from initially being closely supervised and monitored, to gradually developing into a more autonomously functioning professional by the end of the internship. Additionally, as the year progresses, the interns are expected to be able to manage more clinically complex cases. The training program encourages the continual accumulation of knowledge, refinement of clinical skills, and development of professional identity. While there are overall training goals and objectives, each individual intern might require or desire more experience and/or supervision in different areas. Training for each intern is accomplished through interaction with a diverse client population, psychological assessment, crisis intervention, brief psychotherapy, individual and group supervision, didactic instruction, consultation with other forensic and mental health professionals, research, and self-study. Supervision is provided for diagnosis, treatment planning, and case management with juveniles experiencing a wide variety of disorders. Additionally, clinical research is also encouraged and supported by formal opportunities to discuss current research in the areas of juvenile delinquency, child psychopathology, and clinical assessment. In addition to developing clinical skills, this internship site seeks to assist the intern in the development of a professional identity. To that end, interns are encouraged to participate in educational seminars and conferences, and are afforded the opportunity to provide training of professionals working in the juvenile justice system.

How to Apply

Checklist of Required Application and Supporting Materials

- ☐ Complete APPIC application available at: <http://www.appic.org>

All of the following materials must also be submitted through APPIC:

- ☐ Curriculum Vitae with current telephone number
- ☐ Three letters of recommendation
- ☐ An official graduate transcript
- ☐ Two complete psychological assessment reports with interpretations (supplemental materials to be submitted through APPIC)
- ☐ Receipt of application by November 13, 2015

The application and supplemental materials should be submitted through AAPI online. Documentation that is mailed directly to this department will not be accepted.

Contact Us

If you require further assistance, please contact:

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